

March 20, 1989

TO: Mine File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Specialist *HWS*

RE: Site Visit to Red Rock Mine, M/037/050, San Juan County, Utah

Scott Johnson and I visited the Red Rock Mine site the afternoon of March 15, 1989. The site has been abandoned since the first quarter of 1984. A \$15,000 bond was posted by S & S Mining Company, the only permitted operator. The Division plans to acquire the bond this summer through forfeiture.

Upon our arrival at the site, we encountered two scruffy looking individuals and several beer cans strewn around on the ground. They said that they had filed a legal claim on the site and were removing vanadium ore for processing. One individual identified himself as Merrill Shumway, and indicated that he and Bob Schuppe were partners in the claim. He explained that they had been picking through the waste/ore pile for vanadium and were taking it to the White Mesa Mill in Blanding. No new disturbance had taken place at the site since Schuppe and Shumway started their salvage operation of the waste pile.

I explained to Mr. Shumway that the Division would be acquiring the bond and would be reclaiming the site probably this summer. Mr. Shumway then explained that he wanted to keep the decline intact and the mine water ponds above the site. He plans to reactivate the mine in the near future.

I indicated to Mr. Shumway that the Division would consider reclaiming most of the site except for the portions he wanted to keep for future use. He would eventually have to file a Small Operators NOI on the remaining area he wanted to maintain.

The site is permitted for and does consist of approximately 9 acres of actual disturbance, the bulk of which is located above the waste dump/portal/main pad area. At least 4-5 acres of disturbance is located in the area of the mine water ponds. This area also includes several exploration drill holes, pads and roads, none of which have been reclaimed. This area, in particular, looks to be in very poor shape and should be cleaned up and reclaimed.

The lower pad area consists of a large waste pile, a decline, and a large amount of trash left behind by the previous operator, Clayton Stocks. The decline is not gated or posted properly, and presents a safety hazard to the public.

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I informed Mr. Shumway that the Division will expect a Small Operator's NOI from him as soon as we decide what to do with the site and the bond. It is my opinion, at this time, that the Division should attempt to reclaim as much of the site as legally possible. The current claim holdants have not shown a great deal of responsibility towards the site and may very well leave it as they found it.

jb
cc: Lowell Braxton
Scott Johnson
MN4/96-97